

JURY IN ARSON CASE UNABLE TO AGREE UPON VERDICT—STANDING 6 FOR ACQUITTAL, 6 FOR CONVICTION

New Trial at Fall Term for Mrs. Garwood Promised by Prosecutor, for Alleged Conspiracy to Burn Down Home in Ashland—Must be Held in Jail or Furnish \$5,000 Bond.

The jury in the arson case against Mrs. M. M. Garwood, after having had the case under consideration for twelve hours, reported into court before Judge Calkins at 9 o'clock last night that they were hopelessly disagreed, standing six for acquittal and six for conviction. Judge Calkins discharged the jury.

County Prosecutor Roberts says the case will be tried again at the fall term of court. In the meantime Mrs. Garwood will be held prisoner at the county jail unless she can furnish bond of \$5,000.

The inability of the jury to reach a verdict was not a surprise to those who had closely followed the trial, despite the fact that Mrs. Nan Strickfadden and Mrs. Dreyfoos, alleged co-conspirators with Mrs. Garwood in planning to burn the Strickfadden house in Ashland, had pleaded guilty and testified against Mrs. Garwood.

Tragic Consequences.

Mrs. Garwood's trial was finished late last Tuesday and was given into the hands of the jury which was excused by Judge Calkins until 9 o'clock Thursday morning, at which hour the juryman began their deliberation of the case.

This Ashland arson case was in many ways one of the most sensational and dramatic in the history of the county. When the alleged principals in the case plotted to burn the house of Mrs. Strickfadden in order to obtain the insurance little did they think then of the tragic consequences that were to follow; that following the fire all concerned would be placed under arrest; that one would commit suicide in jail, and that three others would be facing penitentiary sentences today.

All their plans went wrong because the Ashland fire department was too efficient and inquisitive. The firemen saved the building from being a total loss, and then in investigating into the cause of the blaze found unmistakable evidence that the structure had been set on fire.

Then Came Denouement.

Then began a long investigation by the insurance company and District Attorney Roberts, assisted by the authorities of Lane county, Assistant District Attorney Robinson of Portland and the authorities of Seattle. Step by step the plot was unfolded and an unbroken chain of the strongest kind of circumstantial evidence woven around the suspected persons.

Finally all was ready for the denouement. Mrs. Strickfadden and Mrs. Dreyfoos were arrested in Seattle, Mrs. Garwood and N. E. Hemphill of Medford who was in her employ selling land, were placed under arrest at Eugene, and were subjected to a severe grilling separately for five hours by Assistant District Attorney Robinson and others. Finally Hemphill broke down, it is claimed, and made a confession which was taken down in writing and was signed by him.

Hemphill Kills Himself.

Several hours later, overcome by remorse, and feeling keenly the disgrace he had brought not only upon himself but on his innocent wife and children, and mind weary from the severe ordeal he had just passed thru, he welcomed death and committed suicide by swallowing a deadly poison he had concealed about his clothes. He was found dead in his cell. Thus as a principal he personally passed out of the case, but echoes of his connection with it have continued on.

Mrs. Garwood, however, was unshaken by the severe grilling to which she was subjected, and earnestly protested her innocence. She was brought back to Medford, as were Mrs. Strickfadden and Mrs. Dreyfoos from Seattle. The two latter were released by recommendation of District Attorney Roberts on \$2,500 bail. Mrs. Dreyfoos, however, was held under \$5,000 bail as the authorities from the start regarded her as the ringleader in the arson plot. She has been in jail 51 days.

Before the trial began last Monday there was a well defined rumor that Mrs. Strickfadden and Mrs. Dreyfoos would plead guilty when arraigned for trial and then would turn state's evidence and testify against Mrs. Garwood. Therefore not much surprise was created last Monday when they testified against Mrs. Garwood on the witness stand.

Beginning of Plot.

But now back to the beginning. It seems that Mrs. Garwood, who was the representative of a company

selling land in Washington state, accompanied by Hemphill, a former resident of Ashland and a former moving picture theater operator at the Page theater in this city, came to Ashland last March and opened up a land selling office.

Mrs. Strickfadden and Mrs. Dreyfoos, her sister, had only returned a short time before from another state where they had been residing for a year or more. They insured the house after their return. It is claimed they needed money badly. Anyhow they called at Mrs. Garwood's office to see if she could not sell the Strickfadden house for them. As a result of this call Mrs. Garwood was invited out to dinner at the Strickfadden home.

At that dinner, it is claimed by both Mrs. Strickfadden and Mrs. Dreyfoos that Mrs. Garwood suggested, and they so testified in court, that they have the house set on fire; that she said she knew such a thing was common practice in Seattle and elsewhere to her personal knowledge, and that many millionaires she knew of had resorted to such means to raise ready money.

They also testified that Mrs. Garwood said she could get them a Seattle man who would set fire to the house for \$150.

Ready for the Fire.

More dinners followed until finally the plot to burn the house for its insurance was perfected, the prosecution claims. Mrs. Strickfadden and Mrs. Dreyfoos testified that they were to pay over \$100 in cash to the Seattle man who was to be on the depot platform at Grants Pass on a certain date; that according to Mrs. Garwood's plan they would know the man by the fact that he would be eating an apple; that they were to later send the rest of the \$150 by mail to Ashland.

They testified further that Mrs. Garwood herself went over the house and fastened the blinds shut at the windows, arranged the piles of kindling, etc., soaked them with oil from a can that she herself had brought to the house and otherwise made ready for the touching of a match.

Mrs. Strickfadden and Mrs. Dreyfoos were to go to Seattle several days before the fire in order to avoid suspicion, they testified. On the way to Seattle, Mrs. Dreyfoos testified, she got off at the depot and paid \$100 to a man munching an apple. After reaching Seattle they sent back a check for \$50 to Hemphill.

Mrs. Dreyfoos declared on the witness stand that she had never seen or met Hemphill and that the man at Grants Pass was a total stranger to her.

Court Bays Confession.

Anyhow the house was set on fire, investigation was made and the arrests followed in due course of time.

A factor which somewhat befogged and broke the apparently strong chain of circumstantial evidence against Mrs. Garwood was the fact that the alleged confession of Hemphill at Eugene was not admitted as evidence in the trial by ruling of Judge Calkins. The intimation that such a confession was in existence, was, however, frequently referred to by attorneys on both sides.

The defense scored a point when Attorney Gus Newbury had aged Mrs. Michelson of Ashland placed on the stand. She testified that one day when she was in Mrs. Garwood's office talking with Mrs. Dreyfoos Hemphill entered and exchanged some talk with Mrs. Dreyfoos, showing that they were acquainted. She testified further that Hemphill went behind a screen and sat beside a stove, and that Mrs. Dreyfoos joined him back of the screen and talked with him for about one hour.

Hints of Perjury.

In fact, much of the testimony was

contradictory all thru the trial and frequent were the intimations of perjury on the part of the principals from both sides.

Mrs. Garwood made a splendid witness both on direct and cross examination, even bringing forth from District Attorney Roberts the compliment that she was a brainy, brilliant business woman. She was self-possessed at all times and denied the truth of testimony and the charge against her in toto. With her books and checks at hand she presented an apparently clear defense case, showing that all her transactions with Mrs. Strickfadden and Mrs. Dreyfoos and Hemphill's connection with them, were legitimate business transactions. She explained why Mrs. Dreyfoos and Mrs. Strickfadden had given Hemphill \$100 to hand her and of how and why fifty dollars more had been sent from Seattle.

Arguments Before Jury.

Both in his opening and closing addresses to the jury, District Attorney Roberts, although complimenting Mrs. Garwood's business ability and general cleverness, ridiculed her explanations and intimated that she was guilty of perjury. He ably summed up the case of circumstantial evidence and claimed that it was without a flaw.

Attorney Newbury, with his back against the wall, and at a great disadvantage due to the fact that the other two women had pleaded guilty and testified against his client, in his argument made a strong and impassioned plea for Mrs. Garwood. He denied the testimony of Mrs. Dreyfoos and Mrs. Strickfadden and the claims that they and the prosecuting attorney made. He tore to pieces, apparently, the fabric of circumstantial evidence and made out that Mrs. Garwood was the victim of a vicious plot.

Newbury Makes Charge.

In fact he strongly conveyed the intimation that the other two women had been promised immunity or at least leniency by District Attorney Roberts and Assistant Attorney Robinson of Portland if they would plead guilty and turn state's evidence. He also intimated that to save themselves as much as possible Mrs. Strickfadden and Mrs. Dreyfoos had conspired to throw all the blame on Mrs. Garwood. He pointed out that the prosecution had failed to show that Mrs. Garwood had expected to reap or did reap any financial benefit from the burning of the house. "Then if she is guilty as charged," he shouted, "did she want the house to be burned just for the fun of having it burn?"

District Attorney Roberts, in his closing argument, again wove together the circumstantial chain of evidence; tore to pieces the intimations and reasoning of Attorney Newbury, and emphatically denied that either he or any one else had promised Mrs. Strickfadden or Mrs. Dreyfoos any immunity or leniency.

Who Set the Fire?

Judge Calkins' charge to the jury was very brief, and then the badly tangled up mess was handed into the hands of the jury for straightening out, together with all the documentary evidence in the trial.

And now that it is all over the world will never legally know who actually set the house on fire, or the identity of the "man from Seattle." The imputation rests on a dead man and his reported confession, which is barred as evidence.

SAN FRANCISCO, June 1.—Men enrolled in the reserve officers training camp at the Presidio here were today congratulating themselves over the fact that they will receive \$100 a month, according to announcements read by company commanders late yesterday. No date for the receipt of the money was given, the announcement saying men would be given the monthly wage "eventually."

BELL-ANS

Absolutely Removes Indigestion. One package proves it. 25c at all druggists.

ANNIVERSARY OF NAVAL BATTLE COMMENTED UPON

COPENHAGEN, June 1.—The German newspapers are, in printing articles on the naval battle of the Skagerrack, the impression being quite generally expressed that a new battle between the British and German fleets is a possibility in the near future.

German naval writers for some time have been discussing the prospect of the British fleet once more trying conclusions with Admiral Von Scheer's armada. Many of the writers have been governed by the prevalent German skepticism regarding the losses of British ships claimed by the German admiralty but denied by the British and without comment omit ships like the Tiger, the Warspite and the Marlborough from their calculations of British losses. The German admiralty, altho retaining the name

of the Tiger and a battleship of the Queen Elizabeth class, namely, the Warspite, on its table of losses, modestly brackets them with the comment "denied by British admiralty."

The anniversary articles are also intended to arouse enthusiasm for the national submarine subscription in aid of families of German sailors lost in submarine warfare.

ASKS OPERATORS TO CLAIM EXEMPTION

CHICAGO, June 1.—Considerable discussion has resulted from the posting of a bulletin by E. W. Collins, superintendent of the Postal Telegraph and Cable company offices here, in the operators room, in which Mr. Collins advises the company's employees to ask draft exemption. The bulletin said in part: "Cable and telegraph operators and linemen should claim exemption on the ground that they are performing a higher, more difficult and more necessary service as operators and linemen than they would perform as soldiers. Employees

engaged in clerical capacities should claim exemption on the ground that they are performing a service essential to an efficient conduct of the cable and telegraph business of the nation."



The Liberty Loan of 1917

THE First National Bank is prepared to receive subscriptions to the Liberty Loan of 1917, and will accord the public such information pertaining thereto as may be desired.

WAR BOND TERMS

Denominations: \$50, \$100 and upwards. Interest: 3½ percent, payable semi-annually; Payments: Divided into four periods from date of application to August 30. Closing date: June 15.

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WHITE SKIRTS

Just received—a new line of the famous "Korreet" Wash Skirts, best fitting garments made. Reasonably priced at **\$1.98, \$2.98, \$3.98 and \$4.98** each.

Mann's

The Woman's Store

14-22 North Central
MEDFORD, OREGON.

WHITE WAISTS

Another big sale of the famous "Wirthmore" Waists, many new styles to choose from; the best waist in the world for..... **\$1.00**

SATURDAY SALE OF SUMMER GOODS

Get Ready for the Warm Weather Now While Stocks are Complete

Summer Underwear

Women's Knit Vests in all sizes, good quality, each..... **10c**

"Kayser's" fine lisle Vests worth today 50c; very special, each..... **35c**

Women's fine Union Suits, very special, each..... **39c**

"Kayser's band top" Union Suits, very special, each..... **69c**

"Kayser's band top" Vests of fine lisle, very special, each..... **35c**

"Athena" Union Suits, the best fitting garment made; very special, each..... **65c**

Full line of "Kayser's" Italian Silk Underwear.

The Vanta Vest

is the Faultless Child's Shirt

Double over abdomen; no belt or pin or button; best qualities.

Ask about the safe and simple Pinless-Buttonless Dressing of Baby

We are sole agents in Medford for "Vanta" garments. Come and see them.

We are sole agents for "Vanta" garments.

"Vanta" Vests on sale at **39c, 59c, 69c and 89c.**

"Vanta" Bands, **29c** each.

"Vanta" Gertrudes at **69c and 89c** each.

FREE—Baby diaper and book on the "Care of Babies," given away Saturday.

Summer Hosiery

Women's and Children's fine white Hose, very special, pair..... **15c**

Women's and Children's fast black Hose, special, pair..... **12½c**

Women's fine lisle Hose in white and black, special, pair..... **29c**

Women's silk boot Hose, all colors, very special, pair..... **69c**

A new line of fancy silk Hose, just in—comes in all colors; special, pair..... **\$1.25**

New Separate Skirts

More attractive than ever—new models constantly arriving; an appropriate model for every occasion; smart plain styles for business wear, fancy styles for wear with dainty blouses. The prices are the lowest in the city for garments of equal quality. They come in checks, plaids, Roman stripes, both in wool and silk. Priced from **\$5.48 to \$15.**

New Summer Dresses

Some beautiful new Summer Dresses, made of voiles, linen suitings, pongees and many other weaves; on sale from **\$6.98 up to \$12.50.**

New Silk Dresses in up-to-date styles, from **\$13.50 to \$30.00.**

New "Smocks" at **\$1.98 to \$3.50** each.

New Middy Blouses from **\$1.00** up.

Boys' Wash Suits, **69c** up to **\$2.98.**

Children's Wash Dresses, made of good gingham, from **69c** up to **\$3.98** each.

PRINTED WASH BATISTE

1,000 yards extra fine grade of fancy Batistes for summer dresses, in stripes and floral designs; on sale Saturday at, yard..... **18c**

EXTRA SPECIAL

25 new crepe de chine Waists in white, flesh and maize; on sale at, each..... **\$3.98**

TUB SKIRTINGS

In fancy figures, 36 inches wide, very good for suits and sport skirts; on sale Saturday at, yard..... **39c**

SUMMER SILK SALE

Imported Pongee Silk, worth \$1.00; special, yard..... **89c**

Figured Pongee Silk, special, yard..... **\$1.39**

White Corduroy, for summer skirts, special, yard..... **98c**

CORSET SALE

Women's good quality coutil Corsets, worth today \$1.00; very special, pair..... **69c**

New Brassieres, nicely trimmed with lace or embroidery, very special, each..... **69c**

New models in Dr. Warner's Corsets at **\$1.00** up to **\$2.50.**

New front lace model at **\$2.50.**

Agents for the Red Fern Corsets.

SILK RIBBON SALE

Wide Marie Ribbons in all colors, all silk, very special, while they last, yard..... **15c**

Wide Hair Ribbons, in all colors, also fancy designs; up to 50c value—special, yard..... **25c**

WHITE GOODS BARGAINS

Fine Organdie for summer dresses, special, a yard..... **28c**

Heavy Pique for skirts, 36 inches wide, special, yard..... **39c**

36-inch fine white Voile, very special, yard..... **48c**

White Gaberdine, for skirts and suits, very special, yard..... **28c**

"KAYSER'S" SUMMER GLOVES

Women's lisle Gloves in all colors, worth at today's prices, 35c special, per pair..... **25c**

Women's washable Chamousette Gloves, in all colors, worth up to 85c; very special, pair..... **69c**

MANN'S—THE BEST GOODS FOR THE PRICE—NO MATTER WHAT THE PRICE—MANN'S

We Save You Money on DIAMONDS

and

High Grade Platinum and Gold Jewelry

These two articles are advancing in price continually. Diamonds as an investment are conceded next to war bonds. See our ring stock, \$1.00 to \$50.00.

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